

Jeff Nish
2414 Euclid Ave
El Cajon, CA 92019

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David F. Hogan, Deputy Director
Office of Marine Conservation, US State Department
2201 C Street NW
Washington D.C. 20520

Dear Deputy Director,

I would like to introduce myself, I am Jeff Nish. I am a third generation fisherman. Fishing has been a way of life for our family for almost six decades. I am in the process of purchasing the family business from my father. My son is continuing the tradition with me, as my two other children will do in the future.

In the years past we were able to fish year round. Five months of the year in the North Pacific and the remainder of the year in Mexico. We have not been able to fish in Mexico for many years now due to not being able to get permits to do so. We now rely solely on Albacore fishing in the U.S. EZZ zone. I feel that any foreign competition hinders our productivity and catch. With the rising costs of fuel, supplies and all living expenses in general, we need to capitalize on our five months of fishing. The Canadian Treaty will not allow us to do that.

With so many businesses failing or leaving the U.S., it is in our best interest, as a country, to keep our people working and to use our own natural resources' for our benefit. Not only does the fishing industry sustain the fisherman, but it brings monies into the ports. We buy our fuel and supplies from them, eat in their restaurants and stay in the hotels and employ the local people to unload our fish. Our families spend money to fly in, rent cars and enjoy the sights.

I just ask that as you move forward with talks of the Canadian Treaty, you please keep my thoughts and concerns in your mind. Thank you for your time.

Jeff Nish
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